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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO:~	
10/088,228	03/19/2002	Minoru Kasai	F0201T	F0201T 1559	
7	590 07/08/2003				
Yusuke Takeuchi Kanesaka & Takeuchi 1423 Powhatan Street			EXAMINER PRICE, RICHARD THOMAS JR		
					Alexandria, VA 22314
			3643		
			DATE MAILED: 07/08/2003		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No. Application No. Application (No. Application (No. Examiner Art Unit 10/088,228 Examiner Art Unit 10/088,276 Examiner Art Unit 10/088,276 Ash Carterion of Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extension of time may be entitled under the proteins of 37 CPR 1.136(a). In no exent, however, may a reply be timely filed The part of time may be entitled under the proteins of 37 CPR 1.136(a). In no exent, however, may a reply be timely filed The part of timely application of the proteins of 37 CPR 1.136(a). In no exent, however, may a reply be timely filed The part of the reply specified device, the maximum statutory period will apply and will equit 58 (ft) MAXT 160 from the mailing date of the communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any examined patent term ediplication is list be hardly day as a reply while the statutory will apply and will equit 58 (ft) MAXT 160 from the mailing date of the communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any examined patent term ediplication is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Exparte Queyle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1-17 Is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) Is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 1-17 Is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) Is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) Is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) Is/are allowed. 7) Claim(s) Is/are allowed. 8) Claim(s) Is/are allowed. 10) The drawing(s) filed on Is/are: a) accepted to b) disapproved by the Examiner. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 17) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). 18) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a) (d) or (f). 20) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under	(J)						
## Defice Action Summary Examinor Thomas Price 3643		Application No.	Applicant(s)				
Thomas Price The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION: THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION: If the period for reply specified above is less than thiny (50) days, a reply within the statistic office reply specified above. The mantima extensive period will ago with will reply to this William to reply a period for reply specified above. The mantima extensive period will ago with will reply to this William to reply a period for reply specified above. The mantima extensive period will ago with will reply with william the statistic office or reply specified above. The mantima extensive period will ago with will reply with william the statistic or reply as the considered freely. If the period for reply specified above is the state than there months after the malling date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is the state than there months after the malling date of this communication, and the state of the communication. A proper service of the state of the communication (s) filed on 29 May 2003. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s)	Office Action Commence	10/088,228	KASAI ET AL.				
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	2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) Notice of Informal					

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 1-17 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nakamura et al '888.

Nakamura et al. teach a method and apparatus for manufacturing chain-like food products such as sausages or the like. More specifically, the apparatus includes an intestine pushing member 144 to push and advance the shirred portion 143 toward an intestine receiving member. Pinching 142 the shirred portion by and between said intestine pushing member and said intestine receiving member. Detecting means 69 for detecting said intestine pushing member has reached a predetermined position. The stuffing tube having a distal end 147 projecting from said intestine receiving member. Regarding claims 5, 10 and 1, said intestine pushing member has an intestine pushing surface for pushing the natural intestine casing. As for claims 6 and 12, the detecting means includes transmitting to said intestine pushing member driving means a signal for instructing a change of the manner of pushing and advancing said intestine pushing member. In regards to claim 7, the control means has a means for changing a transporting speed of said transporting means in response to the detection signal.

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Conclusion

Summary: Claims 1-17 are rejected.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thomas Price whose telephone number is 703-308-2694. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri 6:30a.m. to 5:00p.m..

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Poon can be reached on 703-308-2574. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-305-7687 for regular communications and 703-305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-308-1113.

Thomas Price

Primary Examiner GAU: 3643

rtp June 30, 2003